

UNIVERSIDAD DE PUERTO RICO, RECINTO DE CIENCIAS MEDICAS UNIVERSITY OF PUERTO RICO, MEDICAL SCIENCES CAMPUS Unidad de Medicina Comparada

Unit of Comparative Medicine

Edmundo Kraiselburd, PhD Professor and Director

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Dears Drs Rubenstein and Jorgensen:

NCRR supports 480 scientific and infrastructure projects in Puerto Rico, representing 35% of all active NIH-supported grants. The Caribbean Primate Research Center (CPRC) belongs to the University of Puerto Rico and receives support from NCRR (NIH). The Center has many active research projects, and collaborates with the National Primate Research Centers. CPRC houses the second largest SPF rhesus colony in the nation. This SPF colony and our conventional animals are the platform of many translational research projects, all funded by NIH.

I understand that a proposal to move the CTSA programs out of NCRR is under consideration. I believe that this proposal, which aims to form a new NIH Institute, should address the critical issue of the fate of NCRR, and the impact that this could have on all NIH-funded programs. In particular, I sincerely hope that NCRR's Comparative Medicine Program will not be broken up among Institutes, for the benefit of all research resource programs that support biomedical research in our Nation.

Sincerely yours,

Edmundo Kraiselburd, PhD

Professor and Director

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Unit of Comparative Medicine

Caribbean Primate Research Center

University of Puerto Rico